

REMARKS

Claims 1-21, 23 and 25 remain pending in the application, claims 27-77 being previously withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner and thus being canceled herein.

Allowable Claims

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claim 8 is allowed, and for the indication that claims 10, 12-14, 15, 21, 22 and 25 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome 35 USC 112, second paragraph rejections.

Allowable claims 12 and 13 are amended herein to be in independent form.

Claims 9-15, 21, 23 and 25 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph

In the Office Action, claims 9-15, 21, 23 and 25 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite.

Claims 9-15, 21, 23 and 25 are amended herein to more clearly recite that the plurality of sound signals include multiple sources without reflections, and multiple sources each with reflections.

Claims 23 and 25 are amended herein to provide antecedent basis for filtered sound signals, and weighted, filtered sound signals.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims are in full conformance with 35 USC 112. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1-7 and 16-19 over Chen

Claims 1-7 and 16-19 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,500,900 to Chen et al. ("Chen"). Claims 1 and 16-19 are canceled herein, thereby mooting the rejection in that regard. Otherwise, the Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Dependent claims 2-7 are amended herein to depend from allowable claim 8. Thus, claims 2-7 are now allowable for all the reasons that claim 8 is allowable.

Accordingly, for at least all the above reasons, claims 2-7 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn.

Claims 9 and 11 over Kamada

Claims 9 and 11 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,995,631 to Kamada et al. ("Kamada"). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 9 (and dependent claim 11) are amended herein to include the subject matter of allowable claim 10. Thus, claims 9 and 11 are now allowable for all the reasons that claim 10 is allowable.

Accordingly, for at least all the above reasons, claims 9 and 11 are patentable over the prior art of record. It is therefore respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn.

Conclusion

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



William H. Bollman
Reg. No. 36,457

MANELLI DENISON & SELTER PLLC
2000 M Street, NW
Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036-3307
TEL. (202) 261-1020
FAX. (202) 887-0336